

## **Prescribing Quality and Savings Scheme 2019/20-Summary and Principals**

The 2019/20 Prescribing Quality and Savings Scheme (PQSS) is additional to and enhances the planned medicines optimisation QIPP plans. It is proposed that the 2019/20 follows the same principals as the 2017/2018 with some minor changes with regards to the gainshare percentage payment and the criteria for inclusion.

### **The purpose of the scheme is:**

To encourage and incentivise medicines optimisation, cost-effective and high-quality prescribing.

### **Principles:**

- Incentives should encourage improvements in patient care and efficient use of resources. It is therefore important that the PQSS does not simply reward low cost prescribing but should include criteria relating to the quality of prescribing.
- The scheme is designed to support cost-effective prescribing without compromising patient care.
- The scheme should provide additional cost-efficiencies and quality improvements to the existing medicines optimisation QIPP plan.
- Savings and quality improvements should be clearly measurable and distinct from any other work programmes.
- The scheme should encourage practices to consider how patients can be supported to get the best from their medicines, and how they can benefit from cost-effective quality prescribing.
- The scheme should include opportunities for all practices to participate in the areas identified.
- The medicines optimisation team will provide resources to practices to support achievement of outcomes, for example template patient letter, EMIS searches, monitoring data and cost comparison information.
- Practices will be responsible for implementing changes with individual patients, for example running searches and writing to or reviewing patients in face to face consultations as appropriate.
- Medicines co-ordinators will be required to complete the agreed MOT work plan as a priority but may be utilised for this work in any additional hours funded by the practice. Monitoring against the MOT work plan will continue.
- The scheme will run for 12 months.
- Inclusion in the scheme will depend on practice implementation of existing prescribing policy including the Low Priority Prescribing Scheme.
- Practices are to reinvest any savings they receive under this scheme in primary care services for the benefit of patients.

## **Prescribing Focus Areas**

The agreed gain-share payment will be paid to practices making savings in the following areas;

1. Diabetes- including prescribing of medicines for management of diabetes and appliance equipment for the monitoring of blood sugar. Formulary recommendations are available in both of these areas and practices will be provided with information and resources to support implementation of these formulary recommendations.
2. Respiratory- Formulary recommendations are available in this area and resources will be made available to support implementation of these recommendations, including choice of inhaler and dose step down. Further resources regarding management of repeat prescriptions requests for respiratory medication will also be provided.
3. Nutrition-Formulary recommendations are available for oral nutritional supplements and resources will be made available to support the implementation of these recommendations.

## **Gain- share Arrangements**

A 50:50 gain-share arrangement has been agreed for the above prescribing, any additional savings areas will be considered by the Joint Medicines Management Group in year as proposed by practices. Payments will be made to practices following receipt of exact data for the final month of the scheme.

If your practice is part of a group of practices that work together, and the prescribing budget has therefore been amalgamated. Gain- share arrangements will apply to the practice group.

The scheme will run from 1<sup>st</sup> March 2019 until 29<sup>th</sup> Feb 2020.

## **Information to follow**

Prescribing information regarding opportunities for your practice as well as resources to support changes to prescribing will be made available over the next few months.

## **Action for practices**

Please complete the slip attached to this letter if your practice would like to sign up to the Prescribing Quality and Savings Scheme 2019-20, returns should be sent to [Philip.haydock@nhs.net](mailto:Philip.haydock@nhs.net) by **22.2.2019**.

**Prescribing Quality and Savings Scheme 2019-20**

**Indication of participation**

Name of Practice:

Practice code:

Practice Group name:

Practice codes of practices within the practice group:

Prescribing Lead Clinician:

Signature on behalf of the practice/practice group:

Date Signed:

Signee Designation:

Signee Name: